

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Shinji KATO)	Group Art Unit: 3725
)	
Application No.: 10/586,158)	Examiner: Tolan, Edward T.
)	
Filed: July 14, 2006)	
)	
For: TANDEM PRESS APPARATUS)	Confirmation No.: 5612
)	

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Resubmission of Second Preliminary Amendment

As discussed with Examiner Ed Tolan on October 10, 2008, a Second Preliminary Amendment was filed on June 1, 2007. The Second Preliminary Amendment includes new independent claims 25 and 26, which were not examined in the Non-Final Office Action mailed October 1, 2008. Attached is a copy of the Second Preliminary Amendment and receipt postcard, which lists the Second Preliminary Amendment and is date-stamped as received by the PTO Mail Room on June 1, 2007. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Second Preliminary Amendment, withdrawal of the Non-Final Office Action mailed October 1, 2008, and examination of the entire Application, including claims 25 and 26. Applicant further requests that the reply period be reset as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 710.06.

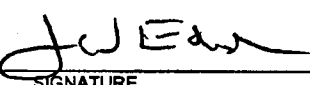
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 12, 2008

By: /Stephanie L. Willatt/
Stephanie L. Willatt
Reg. No. 59,128

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		CUSTOMER NO. 22,852 ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 02886.0098 U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/586,158
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2004/019824	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE December 27, 2004	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED January 16, 2004
TITLE OF INVENTION TANDEM PRESS APPARATUS		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Shinji KATO, Hisanori NAKAMURA, and Asahiko HASEBE		
Applicant(s) herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed with the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the Inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> Annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). 		
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A Substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821-1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154 (d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application 35 U.S.C. 154 (d)(4). 20. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of cover page of International Publication No. WO 2005/068104 b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notification of Missing Requirements. c. <input type="checkbox"/> Verification of a translation (one sheet) d. <input type="checkbox"/> International Search Report 		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/586,158		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2004/019824		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 02886.0098	
The following fees have been submitted:				CALCULATIONS	PTO Use Only
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)):\$300.00				\$	
22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37CFR 1.492(c))				\$	
If the Written opinion prepared by ISA/US or the International preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)\$0				\$	
All other situations.....\$200					
23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b))					
If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the International preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)\$0					
Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the International application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority.....\$100					
International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the Office or previously communicated to the US by the IB.....\$400					
All other situations.....\$500					
TOTAL of 21, 22 and 23 =					
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(j)). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	Rate		
34 - 100 =	34/50 = 0		x \$250.00	\$	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total Claims	15 - 20 =	0	x \$50.00	\$	
Independent Claims	3 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$360.00	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property.				\$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged:	\$
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>06-0916</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
<p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</p>					
<p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p>Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, L.L.P. 901 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20001-4413</p>					
 _____ SIGNATURE					
_____ James W. Edmondson/33,871 NAME/REGISTRATION NUMBER					
DATED: June 1, 2007					

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02886.0098

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
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Shinji KATO et al.)	Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
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Application No.: 10/586,158)	Examiner: Not Assigned
)	
Filed: July 14, 2006)	
)	
For: TANDEM PRESS APPARATUS)	Confirmation No.: Not Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application
as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-11. Cancelled.

12. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus comprising:
a tandem pressing line comprising a plurality of tandem presses disposed side by side; and

a work conveying apparatus for conveying a work (W) between the adjacent tandem presses;

wherein each of the tandem presses of the tandem pressing line includes a bed, plural uprights studded on the bed, and a slide supported on the uprights to be ascended or descended;

wherein the work conveying apparatus includes a main member and an arm member, the main member provided at a portion located inside the uprights of an adjacent pair of tandem presses of the tandem pressing line, and not interfering with the slide; and

wherein the arm member is movable between a position to enter into and retract from an upstream tandem press, and a position to enter into and retract from a downstream tandem press, for transferring the work from the upstream tandem press to the downstream tandem press.

13. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the main member is disposed in a space formed between an upright of the

upstream tandem press and an upright of the downstream tandem press adjacent to the upstream tandem press, and including a space existing inside the upstream upright and the downstream upright.

14. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the main member is positioned outside a contour of the slide.

15. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the main member is fixed to the upright located at one side relative to a conveying direction of the work.

16. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the main member is slidably held by a guiding member provided inside the upright of the upstream tandem press and the upright of the downstream tandem press.

17. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the main member, moved to the upstream tandem press or the downstream tandem press, is positioned outside a contour of the slide.

18. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the guiding member is fixed to the uprights located at both sides of the slide in a direction generally orthogonal to the conveying direction of the work.

19. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the arm member is a multi-joint arm including two or more joints.

20. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the main member is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright in the height direction, and the arm member is extended laterally from the main member.

21. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the guiding member is fixed to at an intermediate portion of the upright in the height direction, and the arm member is extended downwardly from the main member.

22. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said work conveying apparatus is a conveying robot controlled by a CPU.

23. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the arm member is a multi-joint arm including two or more joints.

24. (Previously Presented) A tandem pressing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said work conveying apparatus is a conveying robot controlled by a CPU.

25. (New) A method of pressing a work, comprising:

providing a tandem pressing apparatus, said apparatus comprising a tandem pressing line comprising: a plurality of tandem presses disposed adjacent one another; and a conveying apparatus for conveying the work between said adjacent tandem presses; wherein each of the tandem presses comprises a bed, plural uprights, studded on the bed, and a slide supported on the uprights to be ascended or descended; wherein the work conveying apparatus comprises a main member and an arm member, said main member provided at a position located inside the uprights of an adjacent pair of tandem presses, and not interfering with the slide; and wherein the arm member is movable between a first position to enter into and retract from an upstream tandem press, and a second position to enter into and retract from a downstream tandem press, for transferring the work from the upstream tandem press to the downstream tandem press;

moving the arm member into the upstream tandem press when the work ascends the slide of the upstream tandem press;

catching the work with the arm member;

moving the arm member and the work out of the upstream tandem press;

moving the arm member and the work to the slide of the downstream tandem press;

leaving the work within the downstream tandem press; and

moving the arm member out of the downstream tandem press.

26. (New) A method of pressing a work, comprising:

providing a processing apparatus, comprising upstream and downstream presses disposed adjacent one another, and a conveying apparatus conveying the work between the upstream press and the downstream press, each of said presses comprising a slide for receiving the work, and said work conveying apparatus comprising a main member and an arm member, said main member provided at a position not interfering with the slide, and said arm member being movable between a first position entering into and retracting from the upstream press, and a second position entering into and retracting from the downstream press, to thereby transfer the work from the upstream press to the downstream press;

moving the arm to the first position when the work is on the slide of the upstream press;

acquiring the work with the arm;

moving the work to the downstream press; and

depositing the work on the downstream press.

REMARKS


Applicant has added new claims 25 and 26 to round out the protection to which it is entitled.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 1, 2007

By: 

James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

JWE

PLEASE STAMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:

National Stage of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/019824 under 35 U.S.C. 371,
for TANDEM PRESS APPARATUS

Application No. 10/586,158

Inventor(s): Shinji KATO et al.

BOX PCT

1. Second Submission concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371
2. Second Preliminary Amendment

Dated: June 1, 2007
Atty. Docket No. 2886.0098
JWEdmondson/KFoster - MD 1020



OK'd
6/4/07
JWE